

Success in South Carolina

Investment of Cigarette Tax Funds in Smoking Prevention and Cessation

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MAY 2015

DHEC Collaborates to Address S.C. Cancer Deaths Linked to Smoking

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is implementing efforts to increase referral to the S.C. Tobacco Quitline by providers who treat cancer patients, through using a system of *Ask, Advise, and Refer* (2As+R) for their patients who use tobacco.

Recent analysis of data from the *Smoking Attributable Mortality, Morbidity and Economic Costs* (SAMMEC) system, conducted in collaboration with DHEC's Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control and the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, reveals that more than 26,000 South Carolinians have died from cancers linked to smoking since 2005.

Certain cancers, such as lung cancer, have a traditionally high risk factor linked to smoking. In South Carolina, more than 90% of male lung cancer deaths are linked to smoking. However, other cancers not typically linked to smoking are being discovered to have a higher risk than once previously thought. In *The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress*, a 2014 Report of the Surgeon General, prostate cancer is listed as a newly-identified disease now linked to smoking. In fact, similar SAMMEC analysis indicates that in S.C., nearly 40% of prostate deaths are linked to smoking in men between ages 35 and 64, accounting for more than 400 deaths since 2005.

By encouraging the implementation of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology for Smoking Cessation, providers can meet the needs of patients who are smokers at the time of a cancer diagnosis. The guidelines recommend treatment plans for all smokers with cancer, including evidence-based pharmacotherapy, behavior therapy, and close follow-up with retreatment, as needed.

S.C. Cancer Deaths LINKED TO SMOKING

26,000+



South Carolinians have died from cancers linked to smoking **since 2005.**

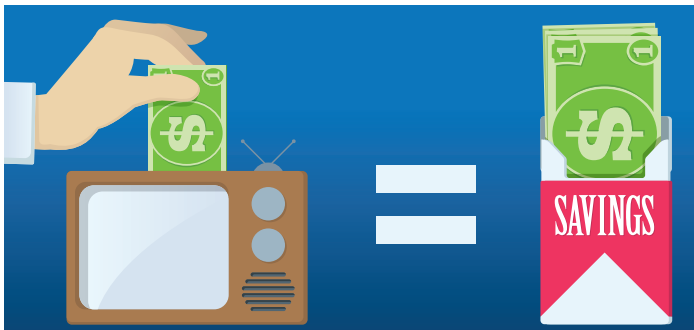
90%

of male lung cancer deaths
are **linked to smoking.**



FORTY PERCENT

of prostate deaths are linked to smoking in men between ages 35 and 64.



\$9.46 was saved in South Carolina in medical expenditures, lost productivity and other costs **for every \$1 spent on the Quitline and tobacco cessation media** in FY '13-'14.

The S.C. Tobacco Quitline

More than 70% of adult smokers say they want to quit, but without help, fewer than 5% succeed. The S.C. Tobacco Quitline is a free counseling service that helps South Carolina smokers and tobacco users quit. Launched in 2006, the Quitline has served more than 70,000 individuals, helping thousands of South Carolinians quit tobacco use, and providing support to doctors, family members, and friends who want to encourage a loved one to quit. For help, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

S.C. Counties with Highest Quitline Usage APRIL 2015

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Horry | 6. Charleston |
| 2. Greenville | 7. Florence |
| 3. Spartanburg | 8. Anderson |
| 4. Richland | 9. Sumter |
| 5. Lexington | 10. Berkeley |

